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Sustainable Development and Sustainable Future of Humankind -
The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind
– Scientific Report

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Abstract

The challenges of 2013 for our global community of humankind are a result of history of humankind and the Nature of the planet Earth cohabitation. The Nature of the planet Earth has been on for 4600000000 years and our global community of humankind commenced its history some 200000 year ago.

Present status of the global community of humankind is questionable from many points of view, but prevailing issues are critical contents which are dangerous for the long-living of our humankind on the planet Earth.

Whether the global community of humankind is heading on a suicidal path or on the path for the sustainable future is a very important difference.

The Xiamen, China, declaration is offering a possibility for a better tomorrow of the global community of humankind.

It is an operational commencement for very complex problem solving, which could be done only in co-operation, interaction and cohabitation of The Nature, The Biosphere, The Living Nature and of course the humankind each as large composition of individualities.

The Key Words:

Culture, Global Community of Humankind, Globalization, Morality, Operational Research, Philosophy, Requisite Holism, Respect, Reason, C&ISR – Corporate and Individual Social Responsibility, Sustainable Future of Humankind, The Nature of the planet Earth, The World of Humans, Wisdom.

1. The Discussion and The report on Xiamen, China, gala event 25th September 2011

The world of humans and the Nature of the planet Earth as per history and the current time are more and more apart as per contents and continuum, discussed by many researchers, scientist, and please see also: “The Principia Nature and The Nature and Homo sapiens Global Community”, Ecimovic 2011 displayed at www.institut-climatechange.si .

The natural sciences, the social sciences and the technical sciences could not protect humans from their dangerous impact over the biosphere of the planet Earth. Actually, it is the Biosphere crisis, which could end the history of humans, and it needs more understanding by humans, with aim not to destroy it, but to find the path for a harmonious coexistence.

Today overall pollution and resources depletion of humanity versus the Nature of the planet Earth is higher than yesterday and so on for last hundred years.

The Nature “human project” needs for its continuum a new approach for a better tomorrow.

On 15th August 2011 the first draft of the declaration »The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind« was sent to initial authors of the declaration.

By September 2011 the declaration was ready in English and on 12th September we received CIP ISBN from Slovenian National and University Library in Ljubljana (the capital of the Republic of Slovenia).

We have been ready for launching of declaration “WTP – SFH”.

Initial authors - Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Timi Ećimović, Slovenia, Sir Prof. Dr. Roger Haw, Malaysia, Prof. Dr. Dana M. Barry, USA, Dr. Renate Lavicka, Austria, His Holiness Vishwaguru Mahamandaleswar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda, Austria and India, Hon. Ricaardoe Di Done, Canada, Ambassador Dato' Dr. Ang Ban Siong, Malaysia, Prof. Tang Shui Yuan, China, Prof. Dr. Glen T. Martin, USA, Prof. Emeritus DDr. Matjaz Mulej, Slovenia, Prof. Dr. Alexander Chumakov, Russia, and Prof. Dr. Garfield Brown, Republic of South Africa agreed to have the first announcement of the declaration at Xiamen, China.

The event in Xiamen, a lovely sub-tropic area in China with 3.5 million inhabitants, was scheduled for the 25th and 26th of September as the “International Collaboration Celebration, Declaration of WTP-SFH, Academic and ASRIA Awards Presentation Ceremony 2011”, taking place on the 25th, and the “First International Conference on Protection of Land and Ocean” taking place on the 26th September 2011.

The declaration in English was translated into Chinese and was prepared as the “Xiamen Declaration”, written in both Chinese and English for the first announcement.

On 25th September 2011 at a Ceremony in the Xiamen International Convention Centre (Xiamen Declaration) “The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind” was launched.

The declaration has been prepared to move from talks, promises and expectations about a better tomorrow, towards activation, awareness, and work of the global community of humankind towards a sustainable future for humanity.

2. Each member of our global community can contribute something for a better tomorrow.

The first task of the declaration's group of researchers and scientists was to get as many translations of the declaration as possible. We had English and English/Chinese declarations.

By the end of October 2011 the result of our voluntary work was as follows:

- English declaration, 12th September, ISBN 978-961-93136-1-5 (pdf)
- The Xiamen declaration English and Chinese bilingual – announced at Xiamen on 25th September 2011
- Slovenian declaration ISBN 978-961-93136-6-7 (pdf)
- German declaration ISBN 978-961-93136-2-6 (pdf)
- Spanish declaration ISBN 978-961-93135-3-3 (pdf)
- Arabic declaration ISBN 978-961-93136-4-0 (pdf)
- English Canada declaration
- English South Africa declaration
- Hungarian Declaration
- Czech declaration

And after October 2011 we were happy to increase the number of translations as seen below,

- Serbian declaration in Cyrillic
- Bosnian and Herzegovinian declaration
- Turkish declaration,
- Portuguese declaration,
- Italian declaration,
- Slovakian declaration,
- Urdu declaration,
- Albanian declaration,
- Macedonian declaration,
- Croatian declaration,
- French declaration,
- Russian Declaration.

Number of voluntary translations by March 2013 has been over 30.

The declarations are displayed as pdf files at <http://www.institut-climatechange.si>

Let us discuss here on awakening humanity to the issues of Nature and the importance of harmonious and complementary life of humans and life or status in the Biosphere of the planet Earth.

Some 14000 years ago, local cultures existed around the planet with very different situations and living styles. We are talking about the prehistoric time period over the Stone Age, pre-antiquity and antiquity with great cultures of China, India, Persia, Egypt, Greece, the Rome Empire, medieval times, pre-industrial and industrial times, two world wars and post war times with the United Nations, the information and innovative society to the globalization era of today.

The awakening of humanity in regard of sustainability commenced in the sixties of the 20th century, and The Club of Rome and its first president Hon. Aurelio Peccei with E. Young, A. King, G. Timman, and others as “Standing Committee” commenced activities during 1968.

Their first report; “The Limits to Growth” 1972, by Prof Dr. Dennis L. Meadows et al, and with consequent reports have earned them high reputation in Europe, and in other parts of the Earth.

Next important event was “Stockholm 1972” (Sweden), the first U.N. Conference on the Environment, with an outcome of the establishment of the UNEP – United Nations Environmental Program in Nairobi, Kenya. The report “Our Common Future”, during 1987 from the World Commission on Environment and Development by Dr. G. H. Brundtland, a lady from Norway, was presented to the U.N. General Assembly.

As a result, in 1992 the Rio Summit was a successful gathering of representatives from almost all the known states of the world. The result was the Sustainable Development policy, strategy or social technique. The large document on Agenda 21, Local Agenda 21 processes and many other documents were announced.

But at the conference 10 years after Rio in Johannesburg, South African Republic, it was clear that the Sustainable Development was not implemented properly.

More hopeless was conference 20 years after Rio, at Rio, June 2012.

The situation in the Biosphere due to humankind activities was deteriorating more and more.

With the third millennium, the UN accepted a number of documents like “The Millennium Goals” and others, but member states of the UN did not implement the policies and plans.

As a result, the international group of researchers and scientists commenced and established a new path, methodology, social technology, technology for complex problem solving as sustainable development and sustainable future of global community of humankind. The net result of this effort is the presentation of the Declaration: “The World Thinkers Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind”.

The scope and illustration of “The World Thinkers Panel on the Sustainable Future of humankind” or “WTP-SFH” platform coverage makes an important contribution towards explaining the broad system of WTP-SFH approaches.

In view of the tremendous tasks with which humankind is faced, and in view of the multi-faceted potential offered by a vast variety it helps combine the forces needed to make this world a more peaceful place and to strengthen each individual’s right to freedom of want, relief of fear and freedom to have a decent life in dignity.

The purposes of the WTP-SFH are to cultivate global peace and security by creating a friendly platform for building a relationship among nations, community, organizations, institutions and individuals at large through various groups of expert contributions under a common objective to make this platform a center for having useful and practical forms on the sustainable development and sustainable future of humankind perspectives as part of human social responsibility practice.

To promote international environmental cooperation, monitor the world environment, coordinate sound environmental practices and promote the exchange of environmental knowledge and scientific experiences. Social contents of global community of humankind have been listed and put as needed actions for better tomorrow of humanity.

Please see at the digital books: “The Sustainable Future of Humankind – IV, Xiamen, China and after” and “The Sustainable Future of Humankind – V, the Action Plan” where we discuss sustainable development and sustainable future of global community of humankind – displayed at www.institut-climatechange.si

Team work, initiatives, inventions and innovations, best technologies and many more known approaches for better idea, work, organization, input and output, improvements, education, management and quest for better tomorrow of humankind will be incorporated to the daily work. We know how small group of people we are, but our experience and knowledge has given us a possibility to open this new path for the survival of humankind. Our intentions are humanitarian, philanthropic, and a good will based work.

We know how many people have a chance to contribute to the sustainable future. We know how many people were working on the implementation of the sustainable development and Local Agenda 21 processes. We know what the results have been and what could be. Also, we think, we know the reasons for present. And we hope to have a large interdependence, interaction, and co-operation among the peoples of the World.

A decision about the implementation of this path for the survival of humankind through the sustainable development and sustainable future of humankind is not in our hands.

The path has been opened and people should do their most important contribution.

Each and one could contribute to a better tomorrow for himself, his family, local community, humankind and the Nature of the planet Earth.

Whether we work well or not it will be seen through the results. Therefore we are asking for the co-operation of each and one representative of present global community of humankind.

Let us present the original declaration in English, which was presented at Xiamen, China on 25th September 2011 in English and Chinese wordings.

The Xiamen declaration could be seen at www.institut-climatechange.si

As commencing action it is opening a possibility for interdependence, interaction and co-operation of global community of humankind and the nature of the planet Earth – Biosphere.

“The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind”

D E C L A R A T I O N



Zg. Medosi, Korte, Slovenia, 12th September 2011

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The Declaration

“The World thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind”

Digital presentation at www.institut-climatechange.si

Authors: Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Timi Ećimović, Sir. Prof. Dr. Roger B. Haw, Prof. Dr. Dana M. Barry, Dr. Renate Lavicka, His Holiness Vishwaguru Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda, Hon. Ricaardoe Di Done, Ambassador Dato' Dr. Ang Ban Siong, Prof.

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DECLARATION

Of

“The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind”

People throughout the world are against the culture of violence and war. They are for a culture of friendship, solidarity, tolerance and peace. (By a decision of 52/13, the decade 2001 to 2010 was unanimously proclaimed “International Decade for a Culture of Peace and non-violence to all children of the world” by the General Assembly of the United Nations.)

By: Prof. Dr. Timi Ecimovic

On 15th August 2011 the World Thinkers’ Forum, Ansted University, Sir Prof. Dr. Major Roger Haw Boon Hong, Penang, Malaysia, SEM Institute for Climate Change, Prof. Dr. Timi Ecimovic, Zg. Medosi, Korte, Slovenia, Prof. Dr. Dana Marie Barry (USA) and Organisation for Protection of Children Rights, Hon. Ricaardoe Di Done, Montreal, Canada, Ambassador Dato’ Dr. Ang Ban Siong (Malaysia), Professor Tang Shui Yuan, Chairman of the “1st International Conference on Protect the Earth and Ocean” in Xiamen, China, and Dr. Garfield Brown, South Africa, proposed founding the panel as follows:

Within the World Thinkers' Forum is an open and new working panel named: "The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind." For short it is represented by the following acronym "WTP-SFH" and has the sign displayed below.



The address for it is at Korte 124, SI 6310 Izola – Isola, Slovenia.

A long list of people of good will, academicians, scientists, politicians, workers, administration and government officials, and many others are supporting this Declaration. Among them are members of the SEM Institute for Climate Change, the Ansted University family, and honorable and other members of the World Thinkers' Forum, etc.

The theoretic and practical background for this Declaration can be found in many works about "Sustainable Development" and "Sustainable Future of Humankind." The trilogy, "Sustainable Future of Humankind," Ecimovic, and many more scientists' work during the first decade of the 21st century could serve as theoretical background. It can be seen at the following link. www.institut-climatechange.si

Members and supporters of the Declaration are free of charge members. The UN, national governments, international corporations, international institutions, national institutions, education institutions and others, are invited to co-operate on the work for the sustainable future of humankind.

The Declaration is giving rights, and is asking for individual social responsibility from members of the human global community: (7000000000+ individuals). The goal is to reach global sustainability of the global humankind community. The global sustainability is a transition from sustainable development societal technique to the sustainable future societal technique. The UN and agencies, especially the UNEP and UNESCO, are welcome to co-operate for the common goal of sustaining the future of humankind.

Our individual lives are very short, and their value and meaning are found substantially in fact that we are integral parts of the "human project". We must support the continuum of humankind because what we are fundamentally is human beings who are inseparable from the continuum, a continuum that includes our descendents and future generations. As human beings we are responsible for each other and for future generations.

"The World Thinkers' Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind" provides a platform for people (interested in the arts, scientific & cultural activities and peace mission projects) to

meet and to work together. The primary goal of the said platform is to create a level of understanding and tolerance between the various peoples of the world and to contribute to the promotion and maintenance of world peace. We welcome all individuals and groups of the world irrespective of race, sex, language and religion. The work of “The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind” is based on the respect of human rights and basic liberties of all peoples of the world. This relates directly to the active participation of UNESCO’s project “Culture of Peace”

The task of “The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind” is a forum for all non-governmental institutions, ministries, public offices, scientific and cultural organizations as well as institutes, diverse organizations, museums, universities, foundations, unions, associations, business organizations and other establishments. It is also for individuals who are practically, organizationally and scientifically engaged in promoting cultural activities, folk art, culture heritage and scientific activities.

Besides the working order and the activities of our world-wide organization for the practical, organizational, and above all scientific work for culture, we also have to meet a very important, social, humanistic, and cultural-political order. Many of us have learned and grown from being a new member of **“The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind”**.

The Declaration is giving rights, and is asking for individual social responsibility of members of the human global community: 7 billion individuals. The goal is to reach global sustainability of the human global community. The global sustainability is a transition from sustainable development societal technique to the sustainable future societal technique.

The UN and agencies, especially the UNEP and UNESCO, are welcome to co-operate for the common goal of sustaining the future of humankind. This declaration will go on to other parts of the world. We think all members of global humankind community have the responsibility to help when needed. Many grant foundations of Culture, Arts, and Scientific institutions (from local and international levels) will give support to the development of common interests.

We believe that “The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind” not only contributes to the attainment and exercise of these rights, but that multiculturalism plays a role in solving some of the problems in modern society.

The founding group of “The World Thinkers’ Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind” has established the following categories for making “The World Thinker’s Panel on the Sustainable Future of Humankind.” These categories (that are listed and described below) are important for the panel to achieve its recognition at the international level.

Categories

1. Characteristics of traditional culture
2. Virtues of traditional culture in a modern society
3. Traditional culture and cultural diversity
4. Traditional culture and rights to culture
5. Traditional culture and multiculturalism

6. Plans for the promotion of traditional culture through systematic continuing study of traditional culture, systematization of exchange of traditional culture and regional cooperation, regular conduct of a traditional culture-related forum and development of cultural industry based on traditional culture.

1. Characteristics of traditional culture

A traditional culture is a way and system of life that is practiced by a people for generations, and features an eco-friendly culture where humans coexist with nature, where an individual is relatively less alienated from the others, and when the spiritual culture is pursued more than the material ones.

2. Virtues of traditional culture in a modern society

Since the advent of modernization and industrialization, our modern society has faced a number of obstacles and problems such as the breakdown of ecosystems due to the indiscriminate conquests of nature, severe natural disasters, cut throat competition in the world markets, unbalanced distribution of wealth, widespread human alienation, attachment to material values at the expense of spiritual values, making it so difficult to lead a humane life. In this context, the traditional culture is of great use for solving such problems in a modern society. In particular, the Confucian cultures in East Asia think highly of ‘filial piety’ and ‘respect’ that are core values, and which are of great worth and merit to remove distrust and enmity between generations and help recover the dignity in human beings.

3. Traditional culture and cultural diversity

The traditional culture is the result of communication and interactions between human beings who have individually adapted themselves to geographical and ecological environments, best representing the individual identity and uniqueness of nations and regions. It can be therefore said that the traditional culture underlies the diversity of world and regional cultures.

4. Traditional culture and rights to culture

The constituents of a nation are entitled to have a political and social life, as well as a culture life. They should have the rights to exercise the freedom to accept the past as well as the present culture. In current times, traditional culture as identified with the past does not belong to the mainstream, therefore, making it difficult for people to appreciate it. In order to satisfy their cultural needs, cultural policies should be set and practiced so that they may have access to traditional culture anywhere and anytime.

5. Traditional culture and multiculturalism

Our contacts and interactions with cultures can make us have a better understanding of other cultures. Therefore, we get to have a better understanding of the different regions and its peoples, further aiding in attaining made and preferentially based on traditional culture. More emphasis on traditional culture and arts is especially needed so that it retains the indigenous ethos of a region.

6. Plans for the promotion of traditional culture

The traditional culture has a meaningful importance as shown above, and for its conservation and promotion, some plans are proposed below. It is so recommended that governments, private groups and communities make active co-operating efforts in realizing this.

I. Systematization of exchange of traditional culture and regional cooperation.

The exchange of traditional culture has value in promoting multiculturalism. Until today, the exchanges have been made unsystematically and at random, not probably enabling people to gain easy access to other traditional cultures. In order for a community to exercise their equally cultural rights and enjoy any other traditional cultures, more exchanges and regional co-operation should be ensured institutionally. Governments, private groups and communities should give attention to this.

II. Regular conduct of a traditional culture-related forum.

The forum should be held regularly for enhancing understanding of traditional cultures in areas, for contribution to the peace of mankind and the world at large, and for maintaining diversity of cultures worldwide, thus accepting multiculturalism, and allowing the nation and community to awake to the importance of traditional culture.

III. Development of a cultural industry based on traditional culture.

For a traditional culture to be sustainable and alive in modern living, its advantaged competitiveness should be ensured and closely adhered to the life of a community. It is also required that the cultural industry such as folk art and craft art should be developed with traditional cultural assets. The cultural industry affects modern living, and so the traditional culture, uniquely separate from other modern cultural assets, should be made to contribute to satisfying the cultural demands of community.

This Declaration is more fundamental than a mere professional production. It reflects the present endangered status of our global community of humankind, and the absolute need for a better tomorrow characterized by global environmental sustainability and knowledge. The Declaration should be the beginning of the road toward a truly sustainable future of humankind, and harmony of humankind living within the biosphere realities of the planet Earth. This should be our contribution toward the lives of our descendants. The UN and national governments have to transcend from the present, and co-operate for needed changes to sustain the future of humankind. We need a planetary perspective, planetary leadership, and planetary values.

Our present time period should be enriched with active work towards a sustainable future. Also we need skillfull, global, humankind community leadership, under preconditions of individual and collective social responsibility. We must support the accurate scientific knowledge of Nature and humanistic sciences, as well as support and promote respect, peace, morality, and wisdom.

I wish to see the global promotion of ideas from this Declaration and a sustainable future of humankind.

Prof. Dr. Timi Ecimovic

Before ending this presentation let us put short definition of the sustainable future of humankind:

“The Sustainable Future of Humankind is Harmonious and Complementary Coexistence between Global Community of Humankind and the Nature of the planet Earth – Biosphere”

Finally, we wish to all participants of the “Trieste Forum” event, and humans on the Earth, success, prosperity, peace, respect, reason, morality, wisdom and sustainable future.

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